



Judith Hartzog

May 9, 1938 - December 3, 2023

Mrs. Judith Coggins McElhannon Hartzog, 85, of Givhans, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her loved ones Sunday, December 3, 2023.

She was born May 9, 1938 in Columbia, South Carolina the daughter of the late James Coggins and Muriel Stone Coggins Driggers. A graduate of Georgia Women's College, she was an elementary school teacher. She guided the learning of countless 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders in the states of Kansas, Oklahoma and South Carolina and obtained her Master of Education degree while supporting the career of her late first husband Lieutenant Colonel Virgil B. McElhannon USAF.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and valued her family above all else. She was blessed to remarry the late Alfred Franklin Hartzog in 2005 and they spent 17 happy years traveling, and attending church and sporting events while cherishing their combined families.

She was a gifted singer who used her talent to bring glory to the Lord as a member of the choirs of her home church, Trinity Methodist Church in Givhans and a regular guest in the choir of Ridgeville Baptist Church. During her college years, she performed with a vocal ensemble at Rockefeller Center as well as performing in many cathedrals in Europe during her years as an Air Force officer's wife.

She had a special love for Christmas and would elaborately decorate her home welcoming friends and family to celebrate the birth of the Savior. Her family finds it especially fitting that she entered the kingdom of Heaven on the the first Sunday of the advent season which represents HOPE.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husbands Lieutenant Colonel Virgil Bennie McElhannon USAF and Alfred Franklin Hartzog as well as her brother Colonel James E. Coggins US ARMY. She leaves behind one son Shaun McElhannon (Belinda); two daughters Kelley Wanish-Strobel (Tony); Kathleen McElhannon (Kevin); five grandchildren and their spouses Valerie (Corey) Porterfield, Jon (Pernilla) McElhannon, Justin McElhannon, Abby McElhannon, and Mack Wanish; four great-grandchildren Quinn, Lucas, Deacon and Emma.

A funeral service is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec 12 at 2:00 Trinity Methodist Church in Givhans, 1514 Hwy 61. The family will receive friends immediately preceding the service from 1:00-2:00. Per her wishes, her body will be cremated prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers please consider making a memorial donation to Epworth Children's Home, PO Box 50466, Columbia, SC 29250

<https://www.epworthchildrenshome.org/>

or Dorchester PAWS 136 Four Paws Lane

Summerville, SC 29483 <https://dorchesterpaws.org/give-today/>

Previous Events

Gathering

DEC 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Trinity United Methodist Church
1514 Highway 61
Givhans, SC 29472

Memorial Service

DEC 12. 2:00 PM (ET)

Trinity United Methodist Church
1514 Highway 61
Givhans, SC 29472

Tribute Wall

EJ

“ *The loss of our dear friend and loved one cannot be expressed in words. She will always be in our hearts and minds as she lives on through her family and all those whose lives she has touched.*
Russ and Georgia White

Evrett R. White Jr. - December 13, 2023 at 05:32 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Judith Hartzog.*



December 10, 2023 at 06:45 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Judith Hartzog.*



December 10, 2023 at 02:43 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Judith Hartzog.*



December 09, 2023 at 06:57 PM

KW

“ We can not find the right words to express the love we have and sorrow we now feel. Wishing our dearest Judy’s entire family our deepest sympathy, prayers and love at this time. David and Kim

Kim White - December 09, 2023 at 08:04 AM

TJ

“ Tom Jones lit a candle in memory of Judith Hartzog



Tom Jones - December 06, 2023 at 06:24 PM

TR

“ While I did not know Judy, I have been so blessed by her daughter Kelley as a fellow teacher and friend. I am praying for this family as they experience the tremendous loss of their loved one. May you all be blessed with peace and the comfort of family and friends during this difficult time.

Tricia Ruddick - December 06, 2023 at 04:27 AM

GC

“ My heart has been so heavy since learning on Sunday of the loss of my dad's sister. My Aunt Judy was a rare beautiful soul and truly an angel on earth who never met anybody she wouldn't call a friend. To start, she was a dedicated teacher which by itself requires an extraordinary kind of person but outside the classroom, she was a giver in every respect. Her fortitude (which she no doubt got from her mom) and perseverance through tough times set an example that I so admired. She would carry any burden with a smile and positive words of encouragement for those around her and was always a great comforter. I've heard you can know somebody by knowing their kids and that's very true of her. You can see her in my cousins as they always have a smile on their faces and a positive word or helping hand for anybody who needs it. She was my favorite aunt and I miss her so incredibly already. I regret that I did not take advantage of the opportunity to spend more time with her but I cherish the times that I had and the memories we made. It's odd how even now she is comforting me because I know that she knew and loved Jesus and will enjoy eternity according to His promises. Thank you, God, for putting my Aunt Judy into my life! I love you Aunt Judy and will never forget you as long as I live!



Greg Coggins - December 05, 2023 at 07:05 PM

TJ

“ We love you all and are so saddened by this loss. It was only a few weeks ago I sat in her living room catching up and playing with Cayenne. We are here for you and love you all so very much.

A limb has fallen from the family tree.

I keep hearing a voice that says,

“Grieve not for me.

Remember the best times,

the laughter, the song.

The good life I lived

while I was strong.

Continue my heritage,

I’m counting on you.

Keep smiling and surely

the sun will shine through.

My mind is at ease,

my soul is at rest.

Remembering all,

how I truly was blessed.

Continue traditions,

no matter how small.

Go on with your life,

don’t worry about falls.

I miss you all dearly,

so keep up your chin.

Until the day comes

we’re together again.”

Tom Jones - December 05, 2023 at 10:09 AM

JN

“ I'll never forget getting the privilege of starting my teaching career with one of the best, Judy Mack! Always there with a smile and encouragement. Then, God blessed me again with a relationship with one of her most cherished, her daughter Kelley. My prayers and love are with all who we're blessed to know her and be touched by her special gifts.

Jeni Nix - December 04, 2023 at 08:49 PM

VI

“ Prayers to your and your family. A wonderful mother and lady. ❤️

virginia - December 04, 2023 at 07:18 PM

DB

“ Prayers to you Kelley, and your family during this challenging time.



Demi Belanger - December 04, 2023 at 06:07 PM

LC

“ I've been very Blessed knowing Judy. She is a precious and caring friend. When she and Kelly came into my life all those years ago it was like a breath of fresh air for me. May she rest in peace until we meet again in Heaven. ❤️❤️🙏🙏

LaVerne Crider - December 04, 2023 at 04:54 PM

MA

*Judy was one of those special
People you meet in life that without a doubt God sends you as an
angel here on earth. I always enjoyed our conversations over the
years. She brought joy wherever she was & will be in my remembrance
as that special friend I will cherish memories forever love & blessings
Margaret Almers*

Margaret Almers - December 04, 2023 at 09:34 PM